

**April- 18**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Smriti Irani, Union cabinet minister of textile, information, and broadcasting, launched the Uttar Pradesh Neem Project at Kathaura in Amethi district. The project has been initiated by the Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (GNFC).
- ❖ Christian Sewing has been appointed as a new chief executive of Deutsche Bank.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Army Commanders' conference**

- ❖ The Army Commanders' Conference, chaired by Army Chief General Bipin Rawat, has started recently in New Delhi.
- ❖ Army Commanders' Conference is held biannually for formulating important policy decisions through collegiate deliberations.
- ❖ A six-day-long conference is an important event for planning and execution process of the Indian Army in military actions.
- ❖ The commanders will discuss issues like mitigation of future security threats, enhancement of combat capabilities of the army, infrastructure development along the northern borders, strategic setting up of railway lines in strategic locations, and budget allocation.

### **India Mobile Congress – 2018**

- ❖ The second edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC-2018) will be held in New Delhi on October 25-27, 2018.
- ❖ The theme of the second edition of IMC is New Digital Horizons - Connect, Create, innovate.
- ❖ It will be organized by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).
- ❖ IMC was launched in 2017 to provide a platform for policymakers, industry, and regulators to engage in meaningful deliberations to drive the future activities of the telecom sector.

- ❖ The first IMC was held at Pragati Maidan in September 2017.

### **e-FRRO scheme**

- ❖ Union Home Ministry has launched the web-based application e-FRRO (e-Foreigners Regional Registration Office) scheme aimed at providing fast and efficient visa-related services online to visitors to India.
- ❖ The e-FRRO is a web-based application aimed to build a centralized online platform to provide fast and efficient visa-related services to foreigners.
- ❖ As of now, foreigners staying in India on visa duration of more than 180 days have to get themselves registered with FROs.
- ❖ With this scheme, foreigners will not be required to visit Foreigners Registration Office (FRO) or Foreigner Regional Registration Office (FRRO) offices anymore.
- ❖ The e-FRRO (e-Foreigner Regional Registration Officer) was being implemented on pilot basis in four FRROs - Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, and Mumbai - from February 12.
- ❖ Now it has been formally launched in eight more FRROs - Kolkata, Amritsar, Hyderabad, Cochin, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Lucknow, and Ahmedabad.

### **India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018**

- ❖ The India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018 was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The title of the conference was 'Securing Global Supply Chains through Government-Industry Partnerships towards Effective Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540'
- ❖ India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018 was hosted by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in cooperation with Government of Germany and UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).
- ❖ Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) was industry partner.

### **UNSC Resolution 1540**

- ❖ The Wiesbaden Process was initiated by Government of Germany in 2012 to strengthen implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 through Government-Industry partnerships.
- ❖ UNSC Resolution 1540 establishes legally binding obligations on all states to adopt and enforce appropriate and effective measures to prevent the proliferation

of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and their delivery systems to non-state actors.

- ❖ India has established legally backed robust export control system to implement UNSC 1540 as part of its long-standing commitment to prevent the international proliferation of weapon of mass destructions.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Arab League Summit 2018

- ❖ The 29th Arab League Summit 2018 has started in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia on April 15 to promote Arab joint action to address challenges facing by the Arab League's nation.
- ❖ Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, the Vice President and Ruler of Dubai is leading the UAE's delegation to the 29th Arab League Summit.
- ❖ In this annual gathering of Arab leaders, Saudi Arabia called for a unified stand against Iran.
- ❖ King Salman of Saudi Arabia chaired the summit and named it as the "Jerusalem Summit" to remind everyone around the world that Palestine is "engraved in the conscience of all Arab people".
- ❖ The summit begins 24 hours after the US, France, and Britain launched air strikes in war-torn Syria in response to a chemical attack on the rebel enclave of Eastern Ghouta last week.

## STATES

### QUEST - Maharashtra

- ❖ The Maharashtra government set up an institution 'QUEST' to evaluate and quantify special development budget allocations and assess their impact on tribal development.
- ❖ QUEST stands for Quality Evaluation for Sustainable Transformation (QUEST) centre.
- ❖ It is the first initiative in the country by Maharashtra to ensure that every rupee awarded for tribal development is not only accounted but the development in lives of tribal people through the projects undertaken is also quantified.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

### Bisket Jatra festival 2018

- ❖ In Nepal, the famous Bisket Jatra Festival is being celebrated in Bhaktapur and other parts of Kathmandu valley.
- ❖ The 9- day annual festival marks beginning of new year in traditional calendar of Nepal. The Jatra begins four days before the start of new year.
- ❖ It is believed that the festival started during Malla dynasty. The main attraction of Bisket Jatra is chariot procession of Lord Bhairavanath.



### Home Expo India 2018

- ❖ The Union Minister of Textiles and Information and Broadcasting Smriti Irani inaugurated the 7th edition of Home Expo India 2018 at India Expo Centre and Mart in Greater Noida.
- ❖ The 3-day expo, organized by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), is on three segmented categories shows comprising Housewares, Textiles, and Furniture.

- ❖ EPCH is the nodal export promotion body for handicrafts in India and plays an important role as a catalyst for the exporters, buyers and the government.
- ❖ The main objective of EPCH is to boost trade in Handicrafts.

## **SPORTS**

### **2018 Santaizi ATP Challenger tournament**

- ❖ Yuki Bhambri from India has won the championship title by defeating his compatriot Ram Kumar Ramanathan in the final of Santaizi ATP Challenger tennis tournament 2018 held in Taipei, Taiwan.
- ❖ For Yuki Bhambri this his first singles Challenger title of the 2018 tennis season.
- ❖ By this victory, Yuki Bhambri re-entered into top 100 international rankings.

### **Asia Cup-2018**

- ❖ The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has shifted the 50-over Asia Cup Venue from India to the United Arab Emirates as the BCCI could not procure permission from the central government to host Pakistan.
- ❖ The tournament will now be held from September 13-28 in Dubai and Abu Dhabi after all the member nations of ACC agreed unanimously for the change during a meeting at its Kuala Lumpur headquarters.
- ❖ The biennial event was due to be held in India in September. But there were sparking protests from the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) who called for the event to be relocated.
- ❖ 50-over Asia Cup is played between the national cricket teams of India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.



# 2018 Asia Cup moved from India to UAE



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